



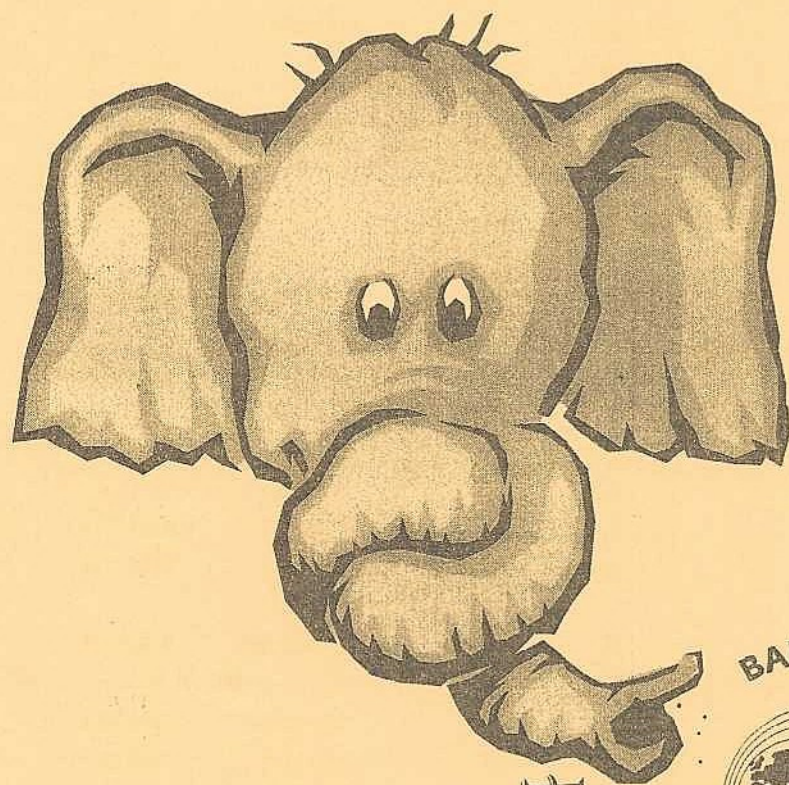
B.A.R.G. News

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE BALLARAT AMATEUR RADIO GROUP INC.

Volume 20 Issue 9

VK3BML

SEPT. 1997



DON'T
FORGET



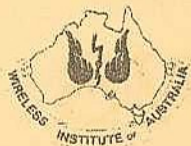
PLEASE NOTE REVISED DATES

[and tell your mates.]

Saturday 1st. November

Sunday 2nd. November

97/09 2



BALLARAT AMATEUR RADIO GROUP INC. OFFICE BEARERS - 1997 / 1998



COMMITTEE				WORK	HOME
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MEMBERS' REP.	JEFF PIGDON	VK3PAP	LYN	5331 1640	5332 7041
QSL MANAGER	DARYL QUIRK	VK3XDQ	WENDY	03 5476 2689	
FACILITIES / BUILDINGS	DOUG KAYE	VK3KAY	DEBBIE		5339 2778
OFFICERS					
MEMBERSHIP SEC.	WENDY KEALL	VK3HWK	DARYL		03 5476 2689
TECH. OFFICER					
TECH. OFFICER (DIG.)	TOM GEORGE	VK3DMK		5332 7234	
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PROPERTY OFFICER	JEFF PIGDON	VK3PAP	LYN	5331 1640	5332 7041
WICEN CO-ORD.	GORDON CORNELL	VK3FGC	HELEN	5339 1135	5339 2427
H'MVENT. CO-ORD.	TOM GEORGE	VK3DMK		5332 7234	
ASST. H'VENT. CO-ORD.	CHRIS KENSELL	SWL			5336 2706

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CLUB STATION

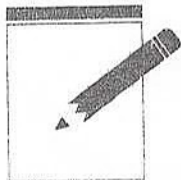
VK3 BML

REPEATERS		
VK3RBA (Voice)	146.750 MHz.	- Mt.Buninyong.
VK3RBS (Voice)	146.900 MHz.	- Smeaton Hill
VK 3RPC (Packet)	144.750 MHz.	- Mt.Warrenheip.
VK3RBU (Voice)	438.475 MHz.	- Mt.Hollowback.
VK3RMB (Beacon)	432.535 MHz.	- Mt.Buninyong.
VK3RBV (ATV)	426.250 MHz.	- Ballarat

ACTIVITIES CLUB NET: Thursday nights at 8 pm. (8.30 pm during Daylight Saving). Freq: 3.610 MHz +/- QRM.
 2 METRE SCRAMBLE: Sunday Nights at 7.50 pm. Freq: 146.425 to 146.600 MHz. Inc.
 Call back held on VK3RBA 146.750 MHz.
 Logs monthly to D.Quirk - P.O. Box 78 - Newstead 3462 (or Meeting) to qualify.
 MEETINGS: General Meeting : Last Friday of each month (except December) at 8.00 pm.
 Venue: Club Rooms - Ballarat Airport - Unit 31 - Off Learmonth Road - Ballarat.
 FOX HUNTING: As arranged during the year.
 HAMVENTION : 1st & 2nd. November 1997..

PLEASE ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE to: The Secretary - BARG Inc. Box 1261 Mail Centre Ballarat 3354

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The Minutes



Minutes of B.A.R.G. General Meeting 29th August 1997.

THE MEETING: was opened at 8.04 pm. with Mary VK3FMC in the chair. All were warmly welcomed and best wishes extended to those unable to attend due to illness.

APOLOGIES were received from VK3s NIZ, DOK, SE, CFH, AAP, PRJ, NAY & N9NAY
Moved DCS Sec CAZ

MINUTES: were presented and accepted as circulated in Newsletter. Moved KAY Sec DMK

BUSINESS ARISING: "Guidlines for Borrowing" and "Facilities Discussion" deferred to General Business. FMC

CORRESPONDENCE: Amateur Radio Magazine, Capricornia R.C., EMDRC., Hervey Bay and WANSARC Newsletters.

MAIL: Powercorp, Ted NIZ re IC745, WIA - SA Div.,
R.A. OT Club 16th Sep., Shepparton ARC Coms Day, ACA not
SMA, Ballarat City Council Lease., Banner Proposal \$95
Moved JFL Sec DMK

TREASURER'S REPORT:

See Sheet. Includes auditoria & comment.

Moved AAI Sec VBI

REPORTS:

EDUCATION: Progressing satisfactorily

FACILITIES: Grand supply of wood

TECHNICAL: DMK at MPRG meeting. Report to follow.

NET: 8 on HF - No tomatoes yet ! 11 on vhf Western Zone Hookup

SCRAMBLE: Lucky to make a quorum ! More competition needed.

WICEN: Seymour visit by Gordon. Report to follow.

HAMVENTION: Note new November time frame.

DMK

Tnks Doug

DMK

Tnks Reg and Dick

Tnks Reg

Tnks Gordon

Tnks Tom

GENERAL BUSINESS:

AUDITORS comments discussed and note taken.

PREMISES: President Mary presented comments and initiated discussion on the pros and cons of both venues.

Some comments on the validity of radio transmissions at proximity to the airport were made and advice from the appropriate authority to be sought on this issue.

Supply of fire extinguishers to be pursued.

MOTION: from Jeff LU "That the lease be tabled for perusal by all present."

Seconded AAI - Carried

Member discussion ensued and "points of contract" within the document clarified to the satisfaction of those present.

MOTION: It was then moved by Jeff LU "The lease as presented to the B.A.R.G. be perused by an appropriate legal person and, if acceptable, be signed by the executive, and the B.A.R.G. formally occupy the premises."

Seconded by XDQ. Carried 20 in favour 2 against
Nil abstentions.

VISIT to Shepparton (ABC) to be advised.

MEETING CLOSED 9.20pm.

NEXT MEETING: 26th. September.

Finally: If nothing sticks to Teflon, how does it stick to the pan ??

Cheers Geoffrey VK3ADB Email— smith@sebas.vic.edu.au



From the Shack of CAZ.



Thanks Reg.

BEAM GAIN THEORY

Browsing through some old magazines I chanced upon a very interesting theory concerning the gain of a beam antenna.

It was a May 1956 edition of CQ and from an amateur named Robert Weinstein W2JAY. He worked for a beam aerial manufacturer and had been searching the literature in vain for some simple method of predicting the gain of any design of beam antenna in advance of its construction.

From observed test results and published data, some hundreds in number, he claims that he discovered a simple formula involving only three factors which satisfied all of the assembled data.

The formula was :

That the maximum gain obtainable from a Parasitic half-wave beam antenna is given by the expression :

$$G_p = E + < E (1 + S) >$$

Where G_p = Power gain over reference dipole.

E = Number of elements in beam.

S = Average wavelength spacing between elements.

This formula assumes ideal conditions in that the beam is not of reduced dimensions, spacing is not reduced or increased to reduce gain, and that the beam is adjusted (particularly element spacing and lengths) for maximum gain. Also that the SWR is intended to be 1 : 1 and that the aerial is mounted at reasonable effective height and away from obstacles.

He claims that this expression has been confirmed by the published gain charts of leading antenna manufacturers and other articles.

Example 1:

What is the power gain of a three element half-wave beam antenna with 0.1 wavelength director spacing and 0.2 wavelength reflector spacing ?

From the formula $G_p = 3 + < 3(1 + .15) > = 6.45$

This power gain is equivalent to a gain of 8.1 dB.

Example 2:

What is the power gain of a four element half-wave beam with a 0.1 wavelength spacing for the 1st and 2nd directors and 0.25 wavelength reflector spacing ?

Compute average spacing as $\frac{0.1 + 0.1 + 0.25}{3} = 0.15$

Therefore $G_p = 4 + < 4(1.15) > = 8.6$ power gain or 9.3 dB.

Certainly it does give figures which seem realistic and much more likely to be correct than some of the fancy claims that are made in this area. Seems that they had it all worked out back then and we haven't improved anything except possibly the art of obfuscation if not actual lying. Try it out and see if you agree with it (and me). 73 de Reg VK3CAZ.



The President's Comments

The new club year has commenced with members agreeing to the lease for the club rooms at the Ballarat Airport. Opportunity was made for all members to visit the alternative site at Sebastopol, and to discuss the issue in full at the last general meeting, at which there was a good attendance.

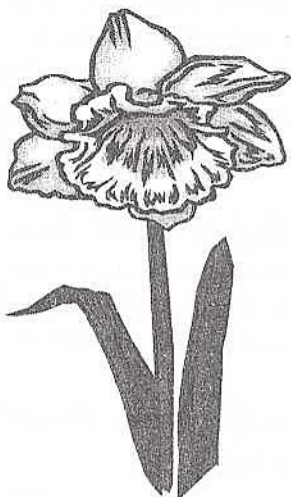
It is hoped that the aquisition of our own premises will enable members to work together to develop more fully their interest in the varying facets of Amateur Radio.

One area causing some concern is the lack of interest in the Sunday Night Scramble. A motion at the last meeting that it should be discontinued was deferred for a month. Over the last two or three weeks there has been an increase in participants. Members are urged to put aside ten minutes or so on a Sunday Night and become involved. It is a fun time and it would be a pity to see it disappear.

Suggestions for guest speakers and activities at club meetings would be appreciated by the committee, also ideas for trips, field days etc.

At our September meeting, Trevor Chapman, will be our guest speaker. He and his wife Wanda have made trips in their 4WD to areas in the outback not usually visited by most tourists. He will elaborate about these trips and the equipment, including radio gear, that he uses. It is hoped that there will be a good attendance for this interesting night. YL's are most welcome.

73 de Mary VK3FMC.



Yes - It's That Time Again

The daffodils are blooming
and your Membership Fees to B.A.R.C.
are now due.

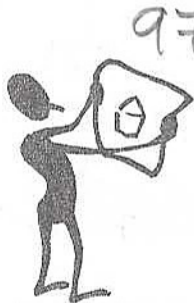
Please make sure that you are financial by sending
your cheque to:

Ms. W. Keall - VK3HWK

P.O. Box 151

Maldon 3463

or of course pay at the meeting.



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WORD SEARCH

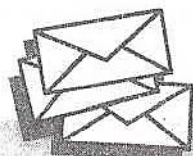


Australia

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J	R	Y	R	W	E	R	Q	A	N	L	W	E	Y	O
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Aborigines
Barrier Reef
Botany Bay
Broken Hill
Darling River
Darwin
Dingo
Gum tree
Hobart
Koala
Kookaburra
Launceston

Melbourne
Murray River
New South Wales
Perth
Phillip Island
Platypus
Queensland
Sydney
Tasmania
The Apostles
Wallaby



Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir,

During the last 8 - 12 months, the BARG have been discussing the pros and cons of the clubrooms at the airport. At the August general meeting a vote was taken on whether the Group would sign the lease, with the vote going in favour of signing. I would hope that this is the last we will hear about this sorry ongoing saga. I do not know if it is the right or wrong decision, **but it is done**. Can we please restore some sanity to the Group and talk about, and do, the things that we are interested in? **Amateur Radio**.

Ever since the above matter raised it's ugly head, amateur radio has taken a back seat. The Group has missed the mark on where it is going. It is not a self gratification group for a minority, it is there for all to enjoy. Different people enjoy different facets of the hobby, whether it be CW, Packet, microwaves etc.. So how about doing things that interest amateurs. There are people in the Group with a wide variety of skills who would be willing to pass on some of their knowledge, or give a short talk on a particular subject. Maybe someone has an idea for a club project. Some members enjoy coming to the meetings so they can ragchew afterwards, for others the Monday night sessions are their enjoyment.

I for one do not come to the meetings to get bogged down in political dogfights. If this is how the Group is to continue, I can find a better way to spend my \$25 per year. While the clubroom diversion has been going on, some excellent bits and pieces have gone begging. One example was a Nally tower just recently. While the group procrastinated, this item went to a good home, because the person concerned was interested in Amateur Radio, a focus which seems to be lacking at BARG.

I may be wrong in my thinking with the above letter. Let someone prove me wrong. To quote a member at a recent meeting "I can remember when BARG meetings were fun". So can I.

73 Ron - VK3ZHH.

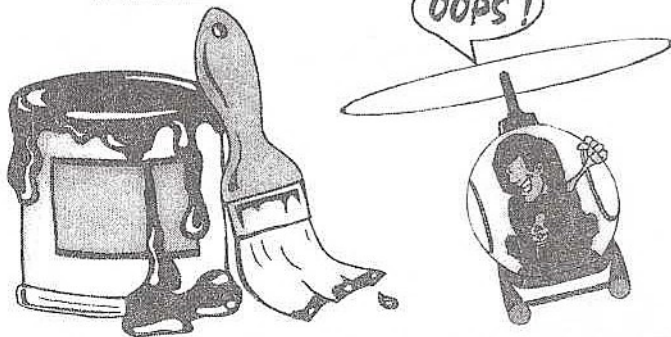
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Conroy's 3D Paint City

see Paul Bruty - VK3BWC

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*The Paint Specialists
who will assist you
with all of your
Painting Problems*



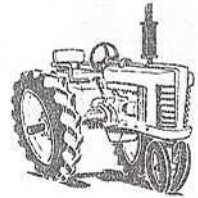
B.A.R.G. is indebted to Conroy's for their help with the supply of paint for the Airport Clubrooms. You may like to support them when you next "slap on a bit of paint".



Thinking of Travelling OUTBACK ?

TREVOR CHAPMAN
is prepared to relate his
experiences and give you
some tips on outback
adventuring at the
SEPTEMBER BARG MEETING
26th SEPTEMBER
Should be a great night.

Hewitt & Whitty



CORNER CARNGHAM RD. AND WILTSHIRE LANE

QUALITY CASTROL PRODUCTS

GLASS & CHROME CLEANER
500 ml spray

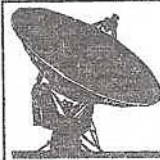
CARECLEAN PLUS Hand Cleaner
100 gm. Tubes

WINDSCREEN WASHER
CONCENTRATE
500 ml.

ENGINE DEGREASER
400 gm. Aerosol and 1 ltr. Tins.

DWF for TIGHT NUTS.

73 Bell VR3PH



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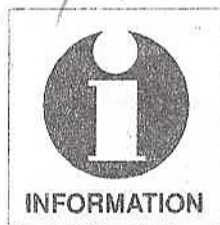
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97/9

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COMING EVENTS.

September 17th. - Committee Meeting
September 26th. - General Meeting - **Guest Speaker Trevor Chapman.**
October 22nd. - Committee Meeting.
October 31st. - General Meeting.
NOVEMBER 1st & 2nd. - **HAMVENTION '97**
Monday Nights - Construction Nights.
Sunday Nights. 2M Scramble - 7.50pm. 146.425 to 146.600 MHz.
Thursday Nights - Club Net - 3.610 MHz. - 8pm (8.30pm in Daylight Saving)
Thursday Nights - **School at Clubrooms.**
4th. Wednesday each month -WICEN Training nights.

This edition of BARG NEWS was produced by



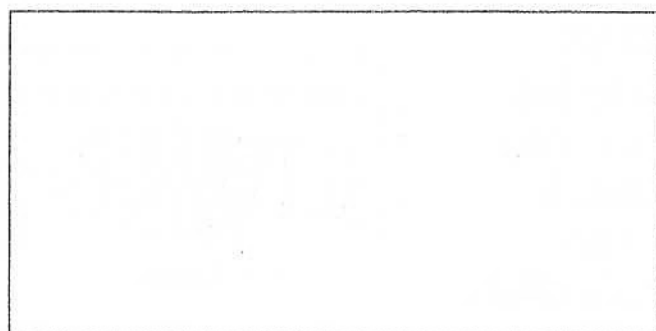
B.A.R.G.

The Ballarat Amateur Radio Group Inc.

A group of radio enthusiasts licensed to experiment with local and international radio communications on an amateur basis.

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME.

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE BALLARAT AMATEUR RADIO GROUP INC.



B.A.R.G.
NEWS

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